



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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For the week ending May 12, 2013

COOL, WET CONDITIONS CONTINUE TO SLOW SPRING PLANTING

Farmers once again struggled to get out into the fields last week due to persistent wet conditions. Almost half of the farmland in the state is reported as having surplus soil moisture levels. These wet conditions have made for a very slow start with corn, cotton, and soybean plantings falling about two weeks below the five year average. Corn growth is also being slowed due to the cooler than normal weather for this time of year. A majority of the wheat crop has headed and some fields were reported to have begun flowering. Cattle and pastures are in great condition, with only a few farmers having already made their first hay cutting. Other farm activities this past week included burn down application and the completion of most fungicide applications. Many farmers are ready to begin tobacco transplanting.

There were 3 days suitable for field work across the state. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 45 percent adequate and 55 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 1 percent short, 54 percent adequate and 45 percent surplus. Temperatures across the state last week averaged 4 to 5 degrees below normal. Rainfall amounts averaged below normal over all of Tennessee this week, with the west being closest to their respective average.

n/a = not available

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2012	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Corn – Planted	63	56	99	81	Pasture	0	2	19	64	15
Corn – Emerged	45	30	98	65	Winter Wheat	0	3	15	57	25
Cotton – Planted	3	1	49	21						
Hay – 1 st Cutting	3	n/a	45	19						
Soybeans - Planted	2	1	33	14						
Tobacco – Transplanted	2	n/a	24	12						
Winter Wheat – Headed	80	53	100	91						

County Agent Comments

“Wet weather continues to halt corn and cotton planting. Wheat is looking good despite cool weather. Newly planted corn has emerged but is off to a slow start. No injury reported due to cool weather. Mississippi River bottom land is flooded. Cattle and pasture ground is in excellent condition.”

J.C. Dupree, Jr., Lauderdale County

“This week we have sprayed some burn downs and planted a little cotton and soybeans. Most are waiting on the Friday rains that are headed our way. Most of our wheat has had a fungicide treatment. I hope our conditions change next week so we can resume planting. We are behind. Cattle are looking great and pastures are green.”

Jake Mallard, Madison County

“Very limited field work this week. Even with sunshine and 80 degree weather, soils were very slow to dry out. Wheat producers were able to complete fungicide applications for a majority of their acres.”

Jeff Lannom, Weakley County

“Seven inches of rain over the last 2 weeks has greatly hampered all field activity. Only a few hundred acres of corn have been planted on some of the upland ground. River and creek bottoms are still saturated. No hay has been cut and no tobacco has been set. To say the least, we are way behind schedule.”

Ronnie Barron, Cheatham County

“Corn acres for grain not planted are being shifted to soybeans due to weather delays in planting corn. Most farmers are at the 60-75% level of acres intended for corn and have changed plans. Silage corn will most likely continue as planned, percent of corn acres planted reported this week reflects that change.”

John Teague, Bedford County

“Rainfall amounts across the county ranged from 1.47-2.94 inches according to the CoCoRahs reports. Some sunshine mid-week followed by more rain. Row crop producers just cannot get an opportunity to get much done in the field. Corn producers continue to plan for corn acreage but time is running short. Wheat is reported as headed to flowering. Wheat/small grain haylage harvest is progressing. Pastures are reported as good and cattle are in good condition, although some producers expressed concern that fescue hay fields look thin.”

Ruth Correll, Wilson County

“Rain from Saturday through Monday produced between 3.5 to 5.5 inches of rain. Pea size hail on Sunday produced up to 10 inches of ice, most of the accumulations fell in Winchester, no crop damage reported. Showers at the end of the week added an additional half inch, keeping field activity to a minimal. Most of the corn has been planted and has emerged; growth has been slow due to wet and cool conditions. Producers are hoping to finish up next week with drier conditions in the forecast. Ponding water in fields planted has drowned a few acres, less than one percent. Wheat has fully headed and 60% of the crop was flowering. Producers have been busy applying fungicides by air and ground. A few acres of soybeans have been planted. Cotton and hay producers hope to get started next week with a drier outlook.”

Ed Burns, Franklin County

“Wet weather continues to delay planting and harvesting. Grass hay is maturing quickly and will affect hay quality at the time of harvest. Weather may improve next week and many farmers are anxious to begin hay harvesting and finish planting crops. Strawberries are 2 weeks later than last year, but the crop seems larger.”

Jerry Lamb, Rhea County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION

For week ending: May 12, 2013 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending May 12, 2013				Current Week 05/12/13	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
West										
Ames_Plantation	82	47	62	-5	0.73	4	28.99	7.41	10.14	2.33
Brownsville_TN	82	47	63	-5	2.25	3	29.74	8.28	13.09	5.43
Covington	80	44	62	-5	1.85	3	28.94	7.51	12.49	4.74
Dyersburg	82	46	64	-4	0.99	2	26.80	7.37	12.01	5.40
Huntingdon_Wate	82	44	62	-4	3.88	4	34.82	14.36	15.51	8.81
Jackson_Exp_Stn	83	46	63	-4	1.66	3	31.26	10.70	13.43	6.15
Lexington_TN	81	44	61	-5	1.26	4	30.46	10.62	12.86	6.21
Martin	83	44	63	-3	1.16	3	29.14	8.94	13.14	6.18
Memphis_AG	82	44	63	-7	1.73	4	30.64	9.61	12.41	4.87
Milan	82	44	63	-3	2.53	4	32.15	11.46	15.21	8.14
Paris	80	42	62	-3	1.72	4	30.65	10.45	14.39	7.70
Savannah_6SW	83	44	61	-6	1.01	4	28.00	4.79	11.93	4.18
Selmer	84	45	62	-4	0.54	3	27.43	4.42	9.13	1.36
Union_City	81	44	62	-3	1.12	4	25.02	5.11	11.24	4.51
Middle										
Clarksville_Sew	81	44	62	-3	1.42	5	26.03	6.24	9.48	3.34
Cookeville	79	41	58	-6	1.41	5	25.96	4.15	11.52	4.74
Crossville_AP	77	39	58	-4	0.73	4	25.94	4.07	10.95	4.10
Dickson_AG	81	40	60	-5	0.87	3	25.18	4.10	9.06	1.99
Dover_1W	80	43	62	-2	1.75	4	34.15	13.46	15.87	9.08
Fayetteville_TN	81	45	62	-2	2.21	4	27.35	5.41	11.11	4.45
Jamestown	79	39	57	-5	1.65	5	25.87	5.64	10.81	4.42
Kingston_Spring	84	41	61	-3	1.10	4	22.47	2.14	8.74	2.38
Lewisburg	82	41	59	-5	1.57	4	24.64	3.16	10.77	3.87
Livingston_WLIV	79	43	59	-6	2.15	5	27.04	7.22	10.72	4.42
Lobelville	81	44	61	-3	1.11	3	29.41	7.39	11.18	4.15
Murfreesboro_5N	81	42	59	-6	1.79	6	27.13	6.77	12.10	5.52
Nashville_Metro	82	46	62	-4	0.61	5	23.58	5.04	9.70	3.40
Oneida	79	41	58	-2	1.11	3	23.11	2.75	8.65	2.16
Portland_TN	81	42	61	-4	1.12	3	25.35	5.71	11.02	4.68
Pulaski_Water_P	80	43	59	-8	1.55	3	28.11	6.28	10.86	4.42
Shelbyville	83	43	61	-6	1.61	3	24.18	2.63	10.36	3.69
Sparta_TN	81	42	59	-5	1.01	3	27.34	6.08	11.88	5.19
Springfield	81	41	59	-5	1.57	6	27.18	8.12	12.95	6.76
Springhill	84	38	60	-4	0.89	4	24.12	2.21	10.00	2.70
Tullahoma	79	43	59	-7	1.39	4	26.29	3.34	12.37	5.39
Waynesboro_TN	80	41	59	-5	1.22	4	26.63	3.25	10.35	2.74
East										
Chattanooga/Lov	83	47	63	-2	0.67	3	32.12	10.34	14.09	8.04
Cleveland_6NNE	80	44	60	-5	1.03	4	27.95	6.12	10.65	4.38
Dayton	81	41	60	-6	0.76	3	30.29	7.67	13.56	6.96
Erwin_1W	80	46	59	0	2.30	4	21.43	4.16	6.68	0.92
Gatlinburg_2SW	76	44	57	-4	2.22	5	30.12	9.93	8.81	2.56
Greeneville	79	48	60	-2	1.86	5	23.77	8.17	6.94	2.03
Kingston_AG	81	46	62	-1	1.91	3	29.00	6.32	11.64	5.04
Knoxville_AP	79	46	62	-3	1.00	2	29.93	11.34	9.55	4.28
Newcomb	79	44	59	-1	1.61	6	23.59	3.23	8.17	1.68
Norris_4NE	79	44	59	-4	1.63	5	25.92	6.01	8.84	2.82
Tri-City_RGNL_A	77	46	60	-2	1.13	7	21.84	6.71	5.64	0.88

DFN = Departure from Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) measured in inches.

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